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Dec. 21, 65

NEWS

THE WEATHER

Tonight and Tomorrow's
Temperature
Max. +8°C. Minimum -7°C.
Sun sets today at 4:32 p.m.
Sun rises tomorrow at 7:00 a.m.
Tomorrow's Outlook: Cloudy



KABUL TIMES

NEWS STALLS

Kabul Times is available at:
Khyber Restaurant; Kabul
Hotel; Shar-e-Nau near
Park Cinema; Kabul Inter-
national Airport.

VOL. IV, NO. 224

KABUL, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1965, (GAUS 30, 1344, S.H.)

PRICE Af. 2

Act Rapidly, Fairly, Justice Ministry Urges Employees

KABUL, December 21.—JUDGES should try to decide cases referred to them in the provinces in the shortest possible time and refrain from unnecessary cross-examination which only wastes everyone's time, the Ministry of Justice said in a message to its employees Monday.

It said that judges should make use of the authority vested in them by the new Constitution for the welfare of the people. They should consider administration of justice as a national trust and deal fairly with other organs of the state, specially those who work for the executive.

The message added that saranwalais (attorneys) working with the Ministry of Justice have both judicial security and police responsibilities. They should, therefore, act in closer cooperation with the governors and police and should at the same respect the law.

Because of shortage of suitable personnel, until such time as qualified saranwalais are trained the authority of saranwalais has in some cases been delegated to security officers or other officials of the Ministry of Interior.

Those officials of the Ministry of Interior who are given saranwalais' duties should realise that they are partly responsible to the Ministry of Justice and should keep in contact with its officials.

The message recommends that judges and courts should implement the Constitution and other

laws with firmness and should not allow themselves to be influenced in any way to act against the people's rights.

Solving Problems Of Asia Vital To All, Hasluck Says

SINGAPORE, Dec. 21, (Reuters).—The Australian External Affairs Minister, Paul Hasluck, said in Singapore Monday night that it was in the interests of European countries to help in solving the crisis in Asia.

He had been asked at a press conference before leaving by air for Sydney if Australia was worried about the possibility of Britain reducing its military commitments east of Suez.

He said Asia's problems were important to all countries of the world. He recalled that Australia had sent aircraft to aid Britain during the Berlin airlift.

"Just as it was in our interests to help in that crisis so it is in the interests of European countries to help solve the crisis in Asia", he said.

In London, British Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart said Monday he did not think an Indonesian initiative for a settlement of its "confrontation" with the separate states of Malaysia could be accepted.

He said during a House of Commons foreign affairs debate that Malaysia could not start negotiations on the basis that she was to be broken up.

Stewart said: "For our part we would welcome any solution acceptable to Malaysia and Singapore and Indonesia and in which possible neighbouring countries might be concerned."

"I believe any common sense solution of that kind is possible, but it would be very difficult to find as long as the armed Indonesian actions follow."

Cabinet Approves Abolition Of Inheritance Tax

KABUL, Dec. 21.—At its Monday's session the cabinet approved abolition of the inheritance tax.

The decision is in conformity with the government's policy to facilitate division of inherited property so that it may be put into use without delay.

Rusk, Fanfani May Meet This Week

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, (DPA).—U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Amintore Fanfani, Italian Foreign Minister and President of the United Nations General Assembly, may meet later this week in Washington, the State Department confirmed today.

Robert J. McCloskey, State Department Press Officer, explained that Fanfani had requested a meeting some time ago.

He said the request was not directly related to a series of letters by him between Washington and Hanoi.

McCloskey said he could not rule out the possibility that there may be some discussion between Rusk and Fanfani on the exchange.

But, he pointed out, the Italian diplomat holds two important positions—the UN General Assembly President and the Italian Foreign Ministry post—and said the discussions would centre on business before the General Assembly and U.S.-Italian bilateral matters.

Public Works Minister Visits Dam Near Ghazni

GHAZNI, Dec. 21.—Engineer Ahmadullah, Minister of Public Works, yesterday afternoon discussed with Abdul Rasul, acting Governor of Ghazni, the progress of work on government buildings in Ghazni.

Engineer Ahmadullah visited the Sardeed Dam, which is nearing completion. Situated 27 kilometres southeast of Ghazni, the dam when completed will bring 40,000 acres of land under irrigation.

The Public Works Minister returned to Kabul last evening.

UN General Assembly Extends Food Programme For 5 Years, Acts On Space, UNEF Force

UNITED NATIONS, December 21, (AP).—THE UN General Assembly voted Monday to keep the three-year-old world food programme going for at least another five years.

By a vote of 93-0 with 10 abstentions, it extended the programme "for as long as multilateral food aid is found feasible and desirable."

It also called for a pledging conference here soon with a \$275 million target for 1966 through 1968, and for another conference in 1967 to get yet untariffed pledges for 1968 to 1970.

The programme has provided food, feed or seed to 54 countries either to promote their development or to tide them over such emergencies as droughts, floods, earthquakes and hurricanes.

United Nations General Assembly committees Monday passed resolutions dealing with the UN mission in the Gaza strip and exchange of information on outer space and debated Korean participation in the unification debate.

Negotiations On Yemen Interim Government Fail

BEIRUT, Dec. 21.—A royalist spokesman in Beirut said Monday that the negotiations between the royalists and the republicans have failed and fighting may resume between the two factions in a month's time, BBC reported this morning.

Meanwhile in Haradh, the north Yemeni town where royalist and republican representatives have been meeting since Nov. 23, Reuters correspondent Khadar Nassar reported 16 of the 50 delegates have now left, and more were expected to leave this week.

The conference became dealocked over its efforts to choose an interim government for Yemen.

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Republic also differed on the interpretation of the agreement reached at Jeddah in August between King Feisal and President Nasser.

The budget committee of the General Assembly passed the controversial resolution calling for the extension of the United Nations mission in the Gaza Strip and the Gulf of Aqaba.

The United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) has been stationed there since 1956.

The resolution was passed with 38 affirmative votes, 14 against and 37 abstentions.

Most of the "nay votes" came from the Eastern bloc nations and several Arab nations.

The General Assembly must ratify the resolution before its session ends Wednesday.

The General Assembly's main Political Committee called for the benefits of space exploration to be shared among all countries, "irrespective of the stage of their economic or scientific development."

It also called for continued discussions to draw up resolutions governing the exploration and use of outer space. These discussions should be held by the committee on the peaceful uses of outer space, under the terms of a resolution adopted by 98 votes to none with one abstention.

The resolution paid special attention to the international equatorial sounding rocket launching facility at Thumba, India.

The Political Committee was

Contd. on page 4

Indian Premier Visits Rangoon

RANGOON, Dec. 21, (Reuters).—India's Premier Lal Bahadur Shastri said here Sunday night there was no tension between Burma and India because "we both love peace and have no desire to encroach on territory which is not ours."

Speaking at a banquet given by General Ne Win, the Burmese head of State, Shastri said he was meeting President Ayub of Pakistan in Tashkent with a "sincere desire for promoting friendly relations with Pakistan in spite of the recent bitter experience."

"We earnestly hope the meeting will pave the way for better relations on a binding basis between India and Pakistan", Shastri described as "cordially", the talks he had with Ne Win Monday.

He said: "The biggest problem facing humanity is how to avert international conflicts and conflagrations. Nations and peoples live in an uneasy twilight between war and peace. Despite the United Nations' efforts there are threats, particularly in Asia."

"The non-alignment policy is not only adhered to by Burma and India but by a large number of Afro-Asian countries. Unfortunately some countries are not happy with this approach", Shastri added.

Ne Win, who regarded Shastri's visit as "a special gesture of friendship", said India with her vast human and material resources has a major role to play in the liberation of colonial countries in Afro-Asia and in the maintenance of peace and security in the world.

Today Shastri will visit the martyrs' mausoleum and will have a second round of talks with Marshal Ne Win.

UN Chief Here Completes Term, Returns To Sweden

KABUL, Dec. 21.—The former Chief of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board in Kabul, Sixten Heppling, who completed his term of office in Afghanistan left for Sweden Sunday. Heppling spent four years in Afghanistan.

Teachers' Academy Graduates First Group Of Students

KABUL, Dec. 21.—The first group of students graduates from the Teachers' Training Academy this year. Thirteen students in the science and 17 in the arts section finished examinations Monday.

The Academy was established two years ago. After teaching middle school students for two years the graduates will be accepted in the third grade of the College of Education following an entry examination.

Erhard, Johnson Discuss World Problems, NATO Plans

WASHINGTON, December 21, (DPA).—WEST German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard and U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson Monday discussed for nearly two hours the German question, European security and the Vietnam crisis.

The meeting was the first of a series of conferences the two statesmen will have. Therefore to meet again today one of the main topics of discussion will be West Germany's role in NATO nuclear strategy, but no decision on this issue can be expected.

Johnson and Erhard met for about one hour alone and were later joined by U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk, West German Foreign Minister Gerhard Schröder and Defence Minister Von Hassel.

Erhard told correspondents he was very satisfied with the frank and open discussion he had with Johnson. "We talked in an atmosphere of friendship as exists already for a long time between us."

Before his first meeting with Johnson, Erhard, accompanied by Schroeder and Hassel, saw Rusk at the State Department. In his talks he stressed the necessity of strengthening NATO.

Recalling West Germany's budget deficit Erhard assured Rusk that West German financial aid to developing countries would not

be curtailed despite his plan for a drastic cut in public spending.

Minerals Survey Contract Signed

KABUL, Dec. 21.—The contract for the continuation of minerals survey in Afghanistan was signed Monday between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union at the Ministry of Mines and Industries in Kabul.

Engineer Sayed Hashim Mirzad, President of the Department of Mineral Survey, signed for Afghanistan and Alexander Skovitin, Economic Counsellor of the Soviet Embassy, signed on behalf of his government. On the basis of this contract, mineral survey work will be carried out and studies made of a number of minerals until the implementation of the third five-year plan.

Foreign currency expenditure of the project will be made available by Soviet credit and the Afghan expenditure will come from the government's budget.



Engineer Sayed Hashim Mirzad (right) is seen shaking hands with A. Skovitin after signing the contract for the continuation of mineral survey in Afghanistan.

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Revision Of Laws

Many will be surprised that the Ministries of Justice and Interior have decided to review the laws relating to the activities of the Attorney-General's office and those defining the jurisdiction of courts. The decision by itself cannot be objected to. What is worthy of comment is that the need for revision has been felt only a few months after the laws were enacted. It has been found that certain provisions of the laws either cannot be implemented or have created confusion.

We shall not concern ourselves with the provisions which the joint committee appointed by the Ministries of Interior and Justice will have to amend. What we wish to emphasise is that a proper procedure should be followed in drafting and enacting laws. During the transition period, in the absence of Parliament, the powers of the legislature were vested in the executive. Various committees in the Ministry of Justice drafted laws which were later approved by the cabinet. The draft versions of only two enactments—the Constitution and the Press Law—were released for publication. All the other laws were published when they were already in force.

It is now clear that public discussion on them is essential before laws are enforced. We hope that in the future not only laws but plans for projects too will be released to the public before they are ratified or implemented. Even Parliament itself should publish the draft versions of laws and plans before holding a debate on them.

The authorities sponsoring laws and projects should study the views of the public even though they are not obliged to accept them. In many cases people's views may help them to remedy defects and plug loopholes. This is the basic virtue of freedom of discussion and we hope that, in view of our past experience, all the authorities concerned will take steps to see that enough time is given to the public to study new laws and plans before they are accepted as final. Besides helping to avoid the kind of situation created by the laws on the administration of justice, this procedure will also contribute to strengthening of democracy in the country.

Views On Vietnam:

Rusk Reaffirms U.S. Readiness To Negotiate

Due to recent developments the Vietnam war has assumed a new aspect. The following are highlights of U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk's letter to the Italian Foreign Minister and President of the General Assembly, A. Fanfani, regarding peace probes.

Comments by the North Vietnamese News Agency on these peace feelers will be published tomorrow and the statement recently issued by the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union on the Vietnam crisis will be published in a subsequent issue.

We have carefully examined the suggestions you have conveyed, and I wish to make the following comments:

1. As it has repeatedly stated, the United States is prepared to enter into discussions or negotiations with any government at any time without any conditions whatsoever, we reaffirm this willingness.

2. Although there is some ambiguity in the statement of Hanoi's position, your source seems to indicate that Hanoi would agree that negotiations might be undertaken on the basis of the Geneva Agreements of 1954 without any qualifications or conditions. We, for our part, would be willing to engage in negotiations on this basis without any qualifications or conditions.

3. The United States does not, however, agree with the contention that the "four points" advanced by Hanoi constitute an authentic interpretation of the Geneva Agreements of 1954. Elements in the four points, notably the political programme of the so-called National Liberation Front, have no basis in the Geneva Agreements, and Hanoi's apparent insistence on a declaration accepting the four points

thus appears both to be inconsistent with the agreements and to require a substantive condition to negotiations. Nevertheless, we are prepared to include these four points for consideration in any peace talks along with any proposals which the United States, South Vietnam and other governments may wish to advance.

4. Your sources also mention another apparent Hanoi condition calling for a cease-fire and other measures prior to negotiations. The United States would be prepared for negotiations without the imposition of any conditions of this nature.

However, if a reduction or cessation of hostilities were to be arranged prior to negotiations, it seems self-evident that it would have to be on an equitable and reciprocal basis. If there were a cessation of certain military activities on the one side, there would have to be an equivalent cessation of military activities on the other. The formulation proposed by Hanoi's leaders does not appear to meet this test, for example, in that it imposes no restraint on the continued infiltration of forces and equipment from North to South Vietnam.

5. The United States government notes the message conveyed that North Vietnam would not insist on the actual withdrawal of American forces before the initiation of negotiations. However, the clarification of this point, though not without significance in the light of conflicting public statements by Hanoi on the subject, still leaves the questions discussed in 2 and 3 above.

We are thus far from persuaded that statements by Ho Chi Minh and Pham Van Dong quoted by your Italian sources indicate a real willingness for unconditional negotiations. We would be pleased, for our part, however,

on the basis of the considerations set forth above and perhaps in light of any further soundings your sources may make with Hanoi to discuss this matter further with you. I have asked Ambassador Goldberg, who bears this letter, to make himself available to you at any time for this purpose.

Further, if it develops following such discussions, or further contact by you with your sources, that a direct discussion with your Italian sources is deemed fruitful, a representative of the United States would be authorised to meet with them privately.

Finally, let me make it clear that you are free to draw on the contents of this letter, in anyway you may desire, in communicating with your sources. We would welcome your continuing assistance on this important matter.

The letter from Foreign Minister Fanfani to Secretary Rusk reads:

I received on 6th December your letter which Ambassador Goldberg had previously announced to me on November 29. The same day I summarised in a document of mine essential observations made by you on various points and I have just received word that on Wednesday last—8th December—said document has been confidentially delivered into the hands of a qualified representative in order to be forwarded to Hanoi. I think as of today, the said document, has already reached its final destination.

I would like to add I desire, Mr. Secretary, to thank you very much for the confidence and trust in my person you and the American government have confirmed in your letter. I can assure you that, as soon as I receive any reaction on the points contained in the letter, I will inform you immediately.

Millions Saved By Disarmament Could Speed Scientific Research, UNESCO Committee Finds

From 15,000 to 20,000 million dollars is being spent every year on military research and development—the share of science in the world's annual armaments bill of an estimated 150,000 million dollars.

But what if the dream of disarmament becomes a reality? How could the best use be made of the staggering resources of scientific and technological manpower and facilities that would become available for peaceful purposes? And in what proportions would they become available?

If military research were to be halted, how could society continue to enjoy its "fallout" benefits, of which nuclear power, high speed air travel and electronic computation are only a few examples? And what new incentives would have to be provided to keep investment high in science?

These were some of the questions explored recently in a wide-ranging discussion at UNESCO House in Paris by eight scientists meeting as a "study group on the long-term consequences of disarmament on the development of scientific and technological research".

The meeting was attended by scientists and professors from different countries.

By the end of its meeting, the group had agreed on a series of recommendations for future action. "The group has worked on the assumptions that disarmament is an essential necessity for the survival of mankind and that substantial progress towards this goal could be made during the next few years", it stated in a preamble to its recommendations.

The group recommended as subjects for immediate study:

—The potential supply of scientific resources that would be released by disarmament;
—Experience of selected countries (Japan, Germany, France, the U.K., the U.S. and the USSR) in demobilising scientific manpower after World War II.
—The potential needs for scientific manpower and expenditure in

major civilian scientific fields and in existing and proposed international projects.

Then, for future study and action, the group recommended:

—The development by governments of "transitional projects" which would transfer the resources and imagination of scientists, administrators and interest groups to projects combining genuine scientific merit and broad social and popular appeal.

—National plans for the expansion and use of scientific manpower and equipment, "including large civil tasks for which military structure may be particularly adapted in some countries".

—National and international plan to use scientific manpower to study, through mixed teams of natural and social scientists, questions of "habit changes in regard to human ecology, environmental pollution, population dynamics, etc".

—International plans for temporary transfers of scientific and technological manpower and resources from advanced to developing countries where they would speed the growth of autonomous scientific and technological potential.

These recommendations were reached after a discussion that probed a number of aspects, some of them startling, of the problem of reconverting science from military to peaceful uses. Figures put forth before the group were eloquent, even though they had to be based on approximations because of secrecy.

The group was told that, in 1963, 60 per cent of the world's expenditure on scientific research and development was devoted to armaments. In applied military research and development, nearly 500,000 scientists and engineers and nearly 2,000,000 laboratory technicians and assistants were employed.

While only two countries—the United States and the USSR—have the resources for military research and development at the highest levels, the drain is heaviest on the developing countries, which were said to be spending about 60 or 70 per cent of national incomes on the

armaments race.

It is not enough, however, to deplore the huge sums that go into military research. What must be found, the group agreed, are ways to enlist support for peaceful science on the same scale that military research is now being supported.

At another level, the group took up the problem of demobilising armies, a question that must be carefully differentiated. An army like that of the United States, containing a 40 per cent proportion of technicians, would immediately add to a nation's technological potential if demobilised.

But this is not the case of armies in the less-developed countries whose ranks are filled mostly by farmers and labourers. Here, the meeting was told, the structure of the army be used, not for scientific development, but for building roads, improving agriculture, producing large-scale public works and giving employment to hundreds of thousands of men without releasing them overnight into an economy ill-prepared to absorb them.

UNESCO FEATURES

China Challenges USSR

To Open Discussion Of

Issues Dividing Them

PEKING, Dec. 21. (Reuters).—China today challenged the Soviet Union to discuss publicly the issues dividing Peking and Moscow.

An attack on Moscow's "rickety revisionists" accompanied an anti-Chinese article from the Soviet newspaper Pravda, reprinted today in the Chinese party organ. People's Daily.

The editorial preface alleged Soviet abuse and accused Soviet leaders of joining a campaign with the United States for world domination.

PRESS At-a-Glance

Yesterday's Anis in an editorial on the role of governors said that consultation, particularly in the interest of serving the people, can be very fruitful.

The provincial governors meeting in Kabul have not only been provided with an opportunity to exchange views, but to seek ways of implementing laws and ensuring social justice.

Prime Minister Mohammad Hashim Maiwandwal has told the governors that their main task is to create a sense of responsibility among the people. With the implementation of laws people should realise that their responsibility lies in acting within its framework and thus become more responsible.

The paper said that securing people's cooperation under the new order which has been created in the country is the main function of our young governors. The governors' meeting will be useful both to the governors and the government. The governors can explain their difficulties to the government which can make the governors understand its policy.

The formation of a joint committee representing the Ministries of Interior and Justice is one of the fruitful consequences of the governors' meeting.

The Rural Development Department, which deals with some of the most useful projects in the country, can now carry on its activities with the help of the Ministry of Interior and the governors. By expanding the sphere of activity of this department progressive steps can be taken for the country's development.

One of the best ways the government can help the people in their respective provinces is to promote the handloom industry and crafts. With the formation of cooperatives and with the help of the Rural Development Department the governors can not only increase the income of the people but also find new avenues of employment.

The paper expressed the hope that similar meetings will be organised by other ministries, particularly the Ministries of Education and Health, so that the country's problems may be solved through an exchange of views.

Yesterday's Islah in an editorial asked the public to respond to the request made by the Kabul Municipality for information on allotment of plots in Said Noor Mohammad Shah Maina.

One of our failings, said the paper, is the inclination to pre-judgment. Some of our pre-judgments are reflected in our writings, which result in greater misunderstanding among the people and between the public and the government.

Some people are highly critical of the activities and achievements of some departments. The distribution of land in Said Noor Mohammad Shah Maina in the last few months has created a controversy and the question has also been discussed in newspapers.

The responsibility for the distribution of plots in the new Maina is shared by the committee appointed for the purpose and the Kabul Municipality. Before filling forms the applicants had to get certificates from the municipality declaring them to be deserving persons.

The municipality has now requested the people to come forward with information about the underserving who have been allotted plots in the area.

The editorial urges the public to help the municipality to find those who have got land by unfair means.

In a letter in the same issue of Islah Mrs. Bakhtiarie suggested that the two sections in the Nursing School, one for men and the other for women, should be amalgamated and that the certificates awarded on the completion of studies should be considered as equivalent to Baccalaureate.

Member Of Meshrano Jirgah Keeps Miniature Painting School Of Behzad Alive



Mashal spent over one year drawing the intricate scenes on this vase.

AWARE of their past glories the people of Ghor are still proud craftsmen and artists. Almost all of them build their own houses, make their own furniture and produce the clothing they require for themselves and their families. What is more important, there are many poets and artists among them.

One of the poets, Jalalai, is a hereditary official and a non-official capacities. He was the Mayor of Herat for about five years and has served as the head of an organisation set up for the promotion of cottage industries in Herat.

The organisation had 1,000 craftsmen and did much to improve carpet and cloth weaving in the province. Because of rivalries between the sponsors of the organisation and the merchants, who found it an effective competitor, the organisation collapsed.

Despite this work, Mashal found time to organise two courses to train artists in miniature painting. He says with regret that the courses did not last long as the students were impatient and were not prepared to spend six months or a year on a single painting.

While Parliament is in recess Mashal wants to complete three projects. (Contd. on page 4)

Senator Mohammad S. Mashal of Ghor

Herat and Badghis.

An outstanding Ghor artist, is Haji Mohammad Sayyed Mashal who is now a Senator from Ghor in the Afghan Parliament.

The beautiful vase seen in the picture has been painted by him. He is the one who keeps the Behzad school of miniature painting alive. He is not a mass producer who paints things overnight for sale. During the last 20 years he has finished 20 works.

In every painting he attempts to portray the life in Ghor today or in the days when Ghor was the home of a powerful dynasty which ruled over a large empire from its capital in Feroz Koh.

Mashal mixes most of the colours he uses in his paintings. He uses a variety of herbs found in different parts of Afghanistan and some imported from neighbouring countries.

Besides paintings, he produces woodcuts and is good at carpentry. He had only five years of formal schooling in Kabul when he was a child and his father served as a court page. But he has acquired a good deal of knowledge of history and literature through his own studies.

Before he came to Kabul as a Senator last October he served in

History Of Ghor Puzzles Historians

Ghor is a mountainous province lying east of Herat. It is the highest plateau in Afghanistan, next to the Pamirs, and has an extremely cold climate during the winter. At the time when Ghazni was ruled by the Ghaznavid Sultans, there in Ghor, in the heart of Afghanistan an Afghan family—the Ghori or Shansabiyans—was slowly rising to power and eminence.

The history of Ghor and its people forms an important and interesting chapter of Afghan history. Who these people were and when they embraced Islam are riddles of history yet to be solved. Some think they were the descendants of the Ten Tribes who settled in Afghanistan long before the advent of Islam.

One of their leaders, Qais, hearing about the Arabian Prophet, went to Mecca, embraced Islam and was given the name of Abdur Rashid. His services in the holy wars were greatly appreciated by the Prophet. Another version is that up to the days of Subaktagin (close of the 10th century A.D.) and even Sultan Mahmud, the Ghoris were pagans.

What was their religion? Again no one can say definitely. Some think they were Buddhists, others regard them as Zoroastrians or even as Hindus. According to Al-Uthbi, Mohammad bin Suri, whom Mahmud of Ghazni defeated and deposed, was a Hindu. He further says that one of Suri's grandsons fled to India and took shelter in an idol-temple.

But the paganism of Ghor

seems to be indigenous, having no connection with the outside world. Zamindawar once possessed a famous temple dedicated to the god Zuz or Zur, whose fame had reached as far as China. This temple existed until the later part of the 9th century.

When the Arabs came to Afghanistan, they could not conquer Ghor, and these fierce warriors kept their independence long after the Arab wave subsided. Later when Abu Muslim rose against the Ommaweds, the Ghoris under their leader, Fulad, hastened to his assistance and took a prominent part in the war of liberation.

It is said that when Subaktagin ascended the throne of Ghazni and clashed with these warlike tribes, they had not as yet professed Islam. For a time Ghor served as a buffer state between the Seljuks and the Ghaznavids. Then, under Alaud-din, taking advantage of the declining power of the latter, they laid their hands on Ghazni.

Alaud-din entering Ghazni triumphantly, put it to flames. He himself took a seat on the top of an adjacent hill and watched the burning of the city and the wholesale massacre of its people which

lasted for seven days and nights. The beautiful Afghan capital, the resort of scholars, the centre of a very highly developed culture with its fine libraries, was converted to ashes, while on the din himself was playing on the harp, reciting the following lines:

I will conquer the whole world like Alexander,
I had intended to make rivers of blood flow,
But the children and old men beseech me to spare their lives.

This brutal action earned Alaud-din the title of Jahansuz (World-Burner). Nothing was spared with the exception of a few tombs and the two minarets, which stand to this day.

Later under Muizz-ud-din Mohammad, better known in Indian history by the name of Mohammad Ghori, they extended the boundaries of their kingdom as far as the Brahmaputra. Within the space of twelve years, Mohammad Ghori took the whole of Northern India as far as Bengal and Assam.

The Ghoris, like the Ghaznavids before them, were great builders and patrons of art and learning. Some of them even composed verses. Unfortunately, the ravages of time and especially the invasion of Gengiz Khan at the head of the Mongol barbarians, destroyed most of their useful works. With the exception of two magnificent buildings, the great Friday Mosque of Herat and the

(Contd. on page 4)

(Above and below) Life in Ghor depicted by the Ghorid artist Mashal.



U.S. Promises To Help Meet India's Wheat Deficit

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21. (AP).—India has made known its food deficit will be about 10 million tons of grain this year and has asked the United States and other countries to do what they can to help avert famine.

The magnitude of the problem was made known by India's Minister of Food and Agriculture Chidambaram Subramaniam after a White House meeting he had with President Johnson and U.S. Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman.

The Food Minister said that first estimates indicated a need for 10 million tons of wheat and other grains and that revised estimates would be made in February or March. Diplomatic sources did not know what surplus Australia and Canada may have if any, but India has asked them as well as the United States for help in what might be the worst famine in 50 years.

American authorities have indicated that the United States is willing to provide what emergency surplus foods India is able to handle.

Indian sources reported earlier this month that the present flow of about 600,000 tons of wheat per month could be increased to 800,000 tons per month. Now Subramaniam has declared the Indian ports capable of handling 900,000 tons per month or approximately 11 million tons per year.

There is now 900,000 tons of American grain in the pipeline for delivery to India and the 1.5 million tons will be in addition to this quantity, according to U.S. officials.

One of the topics of conversation here during discussions this week between the Indian Food Minister and Freeman will be on the additional use of fertilisers to increase the Indian harvest. The White House has extended a one-shot emergency credit of 50 million to India for the purchase of fertilisers. Subramaniam will look for more U.S. private and government credit for this purpose.

New Appointments In Mines, Industries Ministry

In the report in yesterday's *Kabul Times* announcing new appointments in the Ministry of Mines and Industries several names were confused.

The names of those appointed are as follows:

Engineer Abdul Kudus Majid as Deputy Minister; Engineer Badruddin Sharafi as President of the Petroleum Prospecting Department; and Engineer Abdullah Mobin as President of the Thermal Power and Chemical Fertiliser Plants in Mazari Sharif.

At Least 20 Dead In Portuguese Train Crash

ALGUEIRAO, Portugal, Dec. 21. (AP).—At least twenty persons were feared killed when a passenger and a freight train collided near this suburb of Lisbon.

Railroad officials said the passenger train, loaded with Christmas shoppers returning from Lisbon to their suburban homes, crashed head on with the freight train five kilometres away from Algueirao, the hill city and former residence of Portuguese kings.

British Conservatives Urge Talks With Rhodesian Govt.

LONDON, December 21, (DPA).—THE British opposition Conservative leadership last night requested British Premier Harold Wilson to announce the terms under which the British government would be willing to open talks with the breakaway Rhodesian government.

The Conservatives, in a foreign policy debate in the House of Commons, rejected all force that might be used to carry out economic sanctions against the Ian Smith government in Rhodesia.

Although the opposition did not criticise British embargo measures, including the oil embargo, against Rhodesia, they expressed concern over the current situation.

The Conservatives also said they are convinced that the British public would reject the use of force to topple the government of Ian Smith.

British Commonwealth Secretary Arthur Bottomley last night

received a delegation from Zambia, led by Foreign Minister Simon Kapwepwe. Bottomley told the Minister that Britain still rejected the dispatch of troops to the Rhodesian side of the Kariba Dam.

Ghor Miniaturist

(Contd. from page 3) He hopes to compile his poems and edit them for publication. He wants to complete his guide to Ghor on which he has been working for some years during his spare time.

He says it is amusing to find people excited about the Minaret of Jam, which is the remnant of "a four minaret city". In Fergis Alaka Dari is the site of a 30-minaret city. The minarets now in ruins are under little mounds.

Excavations there, he feels, will lead to added knowledge about Ghor. The names of places in the area such as Kalai Spah Salar (home of the chief of the army), Naghara Khana (the drummers' home), Takhte Shah (the King's throne) Dar Gah (the gallows) suggest that Mashal's theory may be well founded.

In his attempts to revive the Behzad School of art Mashal has not been disappointed. He has taught the art to his two sons and believes that they will be good artists in a few years' time. His third son is interested in science and technology rather than arts, but all his six brothers cherish art and literature.

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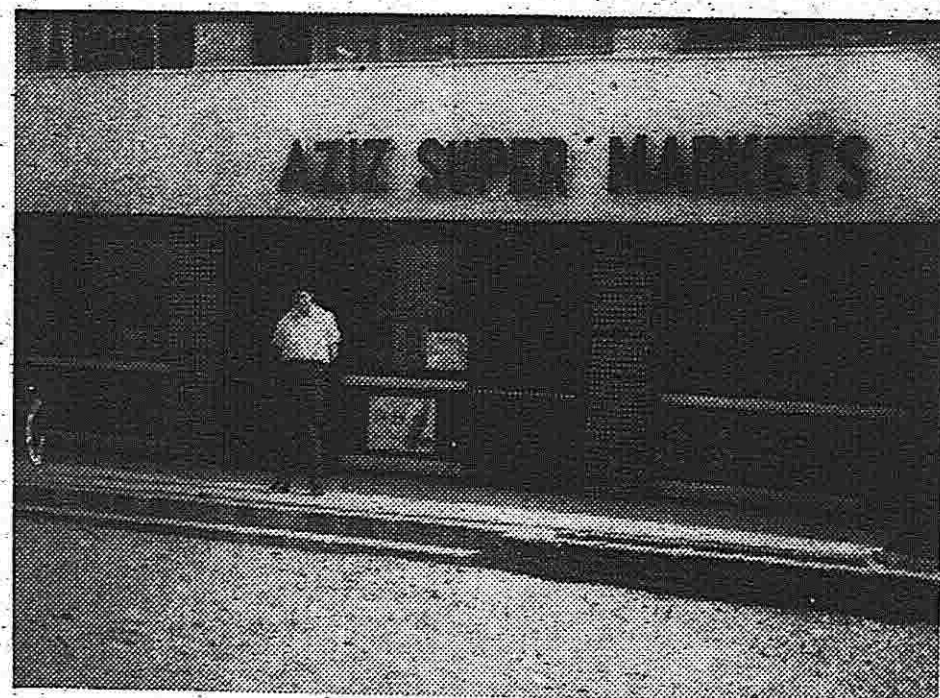
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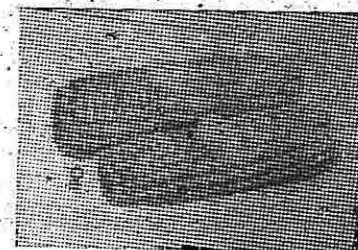


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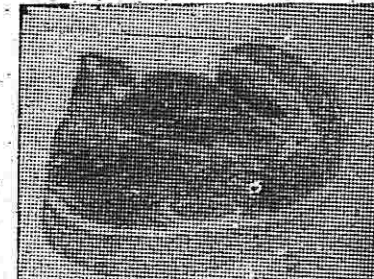
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